

REMARKS

Claims 1-66 were pending in the present application. The examiner withdrew claims 23, 39-41, 58, and 62-66 from consideration based on the restriction requirement and the election of species requirement. Claims 1-23 have been canceled. As a result of this amendment, claims 24-38, 42-57, and 59-61 are pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are requested in light of the accompanying amendments and remarks.

Applicant confirms the election of Group 1, claims 1-61, with traverse. Method claims 62-66 include all of the limitations of fluid supply assembly. Therefore, the restriction is improper, and applicants respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

Applicant confirms the election of Species 1, with traverse. Applicant is unable to identify the claims which read on the two species because it is not clear what the two species are considered to be. The examiner identified the species as Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, and deemed claims 23, 39-41, and 58 to read on the non-elected Species 2. Fig. 3 shows one embodiment of the assembled connection between the reusable cup holder and the reusable outer lid showing the flanges of the reusable cup holder, the disposable cup, the disposable lid, and the reusable outer lid. Fig. 3 shows a variation of the disposable lid (which is also shown in Figs. 5 and 6) and variations of the reusable outer lid (which are also shown in Fig. 4). The variation of the disposable lid is independent of the variations of the reusable outer lid. Claims 23 and 58 relate to the variation of the disposable lid, and claims 39 and 40 relate to variations of the reusable outer lid. Claim 41 involves a completely unrelated variation in the reusable cup holder which is shown in Fig. 4 (and which is not shown in Fig. 3).

In any event, as the examiner stated, claim 24 is a generic claim, and claim 24 was allowed. Claims 39-41 and 58 depend from allowed generic claim 24. Therefore, applicant is entitled to consideration of these claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the election of species be withdrawn, and claims 39-41 and 58 be allowed.

The objection to the drawings has been overcome. The removal tabs on the disposable cup (claims 5 and 48) and on the disposable lid (claims 21 and 49) are now shown in Fig. 2 (Replacement Sheet). Support for this amendment is found in the respective claims and on p. 9,

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lines 16-17 for the removal tab on the disposable cup. New Fig. 16 shows the upper end of the sidewall of the disposable cup being connected to the flange by a flat annular portion. Support for this Figure can be found at p. 16, lines 31-33, and claims 10 and 54. New Fig. 17 shows the clear sheet having indicia. Support for this Figure can be found at p. 9, lines 8-25, and claim 59. New Fig. 18 shows the second downwardly extending projection. Support for this Figure can be found at p. 14, lines 20-26, and claim 61. No new matter has been added.

The rejection of claim 61 has been overcome. Claim 61 has been amended to depend from claim 41.

The rejections of claims 1-22 over various references are moot in view of the cancellation of those claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that, in view of the above amendment and remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that claims 24-66 be passed to allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding the present application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP

By Patricia L. Prior
Patricia L. Prior
Registration No. 33,758

One Dayton Centre
One South Main Street, Suite 1300
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2023
Telephone: (937) 449-6400
Facsimile: (937) 449-6405
PLP/kec
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